

CRACKLIN' STATIC



Serving the Amateur Radio Community since April 16, 1968

<http://www.snars.org>

RENO, NEVADA

SUMMER 2023

SUMMER SPECIAL EDITION, FIELD DAY 2023

This Summer Special edition of CRACKLIN' STATIC contains no President's Voice, no masthead, no minutes or technical articles, calendars, etc., just the story and photos of SNARS Field Day at Washoe Lake, individual SNARS members' Field Day efforts for 2022, (the ARRL now allows D class stations to work everyone). No official stuff, just fun! Read on, and enjoy! And, if you didn't send me anything on YOUR Field Day or other summer event but would like to have your efforts published, send them to me, and I'll include them in subsequent issues of the regular Cracklin Static. On many photos I've included the photographer's call sign and/or captions where appropriate. Photos, captions and comments were submitted by W7SSB, KB7QOD, W7DBE, KB2SFS, K6ST, and I contributed ONE! All contributions gratefully accepted!

73, Howie WB2AWQ

SNARS FIELD DAY 2023, WASHOE LAKE STATE PARK

A 7A Field Day setup takes a lot of people, coordination, equipment of all sorts, generators, antennas, food, safety equipment and so much more to make it all happen. The Field Day Committee of SNARS set up in the Equestrian Area (the area I prefer rather than the main pavilion because of the trees available!) Told mainly in the pictures, captions and comments, here's how SNARS managed to pull off Field Day 2023! Enjoy!



W7DBE



W7DBE

PHOTOS TAKEN ON FRIDAY, BEFORE FIELD DAY

I want to thank John Byerly and Derek Lantz for assisting me with picking up equipment from the shed, buying food and on Sunday returning equipment to the shed. Doug, W7DBE



PHOTOS TAKEN ON FRIDAY, BEFORE FIELD DAY



JIM SHEPHERD W6US SHOWING 40M DIGITAL OPS



LOOK CLOSELY, YOU CAN SEE JIM'S HUSTLER 6BTV ANTENNA

Field Day 2023 – Jim Shepherd, W6US

The weather was nice, the bands were so-so, and there were no flying insects to bug us.... I was in the farthest north position of the 500' radius circle, and had no interference from any of the other stations. Unfortunately, the network could not reach my computer, so to avoid dupes, I was only on the 40 meter digital band. Still managed to get 151 contacts in the log to add 604 QSO points to the club's score. Best DX was a station in Indonesia though I did hear some VKs and ZLs. Worked all of the sections west of the Rockies except East Bay and Wyoming. A few of the established hams dropped by for some FT8 operating tips, but unfortunately the new ham group didn't come up to see how it is done using this mode. I was using a Hustler 6BTV antenna hooked on the hitch on the rear of the RV, and my Elecraft K3s running between 50 and 80 watts to make the contacts.



**KIM AND CHUCK FARNHAM KG7TMA AND WD6CHC
MANNING THE SNARS PUBLIC INFORMATION**



**LUNCH SATURDAY, THE MAIN MEAL SERVED AT SNARS' FD.
JOHN BYERLY, N7ROJ, PAST SNARS PREZ, RIGHT OF CENTER**



N7ROJ's HF MAG LOOP, AND HIS 6 METER MOXON BEAM



CHAMELEON MAG LOOP CHA F-LOOP 3.0



BYERLY TRIES TO CAJOLE SOME ATTENDEES INTO OPERATING



PETER KE7VSR COACHING SOMEONE ON 40M PHONE

John Byerly, N7ROJ was using his Chameleon Mag Loop antenna F-Loop 3.0 PLUS ([HERE](#)), 6 Meter Moxon by MFJ ([HERE](#)), an Icom IC-705, and a Xiegu X6100 QRP, powered by a Bioenno BPP-160 battery pack ([HERE](#)) and a PowerFilm Lightsaver MAX Solar Charger LSM-1 ([HERE](#)).



TRI-TIP ANYONE? SATURDAY AFTERNOON LUNCH WITH ALL THE FIXIN'S



SNARS FD ATTENDEES ENJOY A DELICIOUS LUNCH



KB7QOD



KB7QOD

A LOT OF WORK GOES INTO KEEPING SNARS AMATEURS FROM GOING HUNGRY.....



KB7QOD

TWO LONG-TIME SNARS CHEFS CONVERSE...EUGENE KB7JZO (LEFT) AND JON KF7KTC (RIGHT)



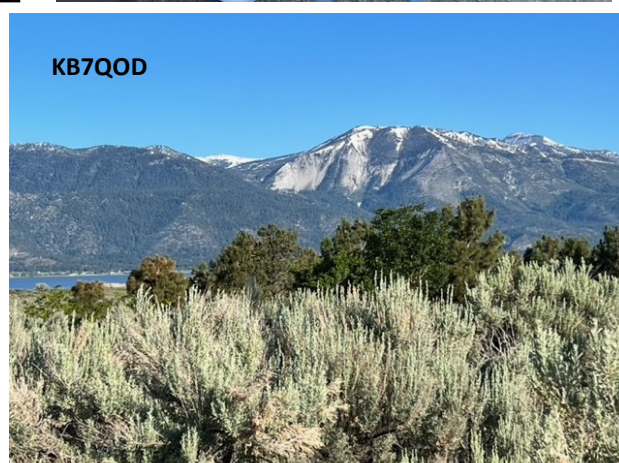
KB7QOD

YOU MIGHT THINK THAT ALL HAMS DO IS EAT.....



KB7QOD

AND EAT, AND EAT, AND EAT!!!



KB7QOD

SLIDE MOUNTAIN, A GREAT VIEW FROM WASHOE LAKE



DAN BAKER KM6CQ CHATS WITH CHUCK WD6CHC



BYERLY KEEPS TRYING TO GET SOMEONE TO RUN DIGITAL....



JON FOX KF7KTC AND KIM FARNHAM MANNING THE PAVILION



GREG KG7D JOINED US FOR FD ALONG WITH HIS GRAND-SON AIDEN, WHO MADE SEVERAL QSOs ON THE GOTA



ART AB7FB WON A BAG OF CONNECTORS IN THE RAFFLE, SHOWN WITH HIS XYL CATHY AC7CE

JON KF7KTC WHO NOW LIVES IN THE PHILLIPINES, WITH SNARS PRESIDENT BARRY K6ST, AND ELLIE K9WOOF





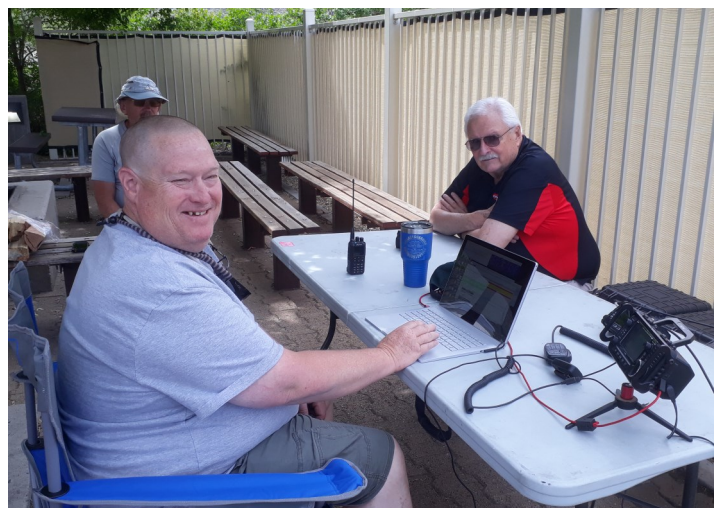
PARK RANGER JENNIFER DAWSON (OUR SERVED AGENCY VISITOR) TALKING WITH PETER KE7VSR



CLINT AE5CA (RIGHT) TALKING WITH JOHN N7ROJ (LEFT)



ONE OF THE CHEFS, PERRY KG7ZPA AND HIS XYL



DON SHERMAN W7SSB KIBITZES JOHN BYERLY N7ROJ



DEREK W7DLZ AND BOB W7VD DOING CW





PETER KE7VSR RACKING THEM UP ON 40 PHONE



ANOTHER VIEW OF THE SNARS INFO BOOTH



SNARS President Barry K6ST presents Jacqueline May (no call yet) with a Radioddity QT40 All-mode 10 meter radio donated by Don Sherman W7SSB and raffled.

FIELD DAY DOESN'T JUST "HAPPEN". IT TAKES A LOT OF EFFORT, COORDINATION, AND HARD WORK TO MAKE IT PAN OUT. SNARS WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FIELD DAY COMMITTEE: JOHN N7ROJ, KIRK KB7QOD, DEREK W7DLZ, DOUG W7DBE, BRIAN KJ6EAC, RAY KK7BVH , TONY W7XM AND BARRY K6ST FOR ALL THEIR HARD WORK.

Jon Fox KF7KTC

Jon Fox, from Jaen, Nueva Ecija Province in the Philippine Islands, was able to make it to the SNARS Field Day camp. He was there for most of Saturday. He didn't work with the kitchen crew this year, but documented part of the experience in photos. He also worked getting any participants and guests to sign up on the arrival sheet. On Sunday, Jon worked a Class D station from his QTH in Dayton Valley. He made 51 SSB phone contacts, and submitted his log online, contributing to the SNARS total with 152 points.



SNARS FIELD DAY 2023 RESULTS:

Call Used: **W7TA** GOTA Station Call: **KB7QOD** ARRL/RAC Section: **NV** Class: **7A**

Participants: **45** Club/Group Name: **Sierra Nevada ARS**

Power Source(s): **Generator, Solar**

Power Multiplier: **2X**

Preliminary Total Score: **3,013**

Bonus Points:

100% emergency power	700
Public location	100
Public information table	100 - File [2023 Field Day Sign-in Sheet 1 and 2.pdf] previously uploaded
W1AW Field Day message	100 - File [SNARS Field Day 2023 W1AW message.pdf] previously uploaded
Natural power QSOs completed	100 - File [SNARS W7TA Natural Solar Power QSO's 2023.txt] previously uploaded
Site visit by invited served agency	100
Educational activity	100
Youth participation (4 x 20, max of 100)	80
Safety officer	100 - File [SNARS 2023 FD Safety Officer KB7QOD.pdf] previously uploaded
Social media	100
GOTA Station	55
GOTA Coach	100
Entry submitted via web	50
Total bonus points	1,785

Score Summary: (File [SNARS FD 2023 log submitted.xlsx] previously uploaded)

	CW	Digital	Phone	Total	
Total QSOs	63	165	158		
Total Points	126	330	158	614	Claimed Score = (QSO points x power mult) = 1,228

Submitted by: **Barry Bettman, W7TA** www.snars@snars.org

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

	CW QSOs	Pwr(W)	Digital QSOs	Pwr(W)	Phone QSOs	Pwr(W)
160m						
80m			4	100		
40m	47	100	159	100	132	100
20m	16	100	2	5	2	5
15m					9	100
10m						
6m					4	5
2m						
222						
432						
Other						
Satellite						
GOTA					11	100
TOTAL	63		165		158	

GOTA Bonus: **GOTA Coach - 100 Bonus Points**

Name/Call	QSOs	Bonus Points
Aiden, NO CALL YET	4	20
Timothy Downham, KD6CUD	3	15
Christy Ramsey, NO CALL YET	2	10
Jacqueline May, NO CALL YET	2	10

TOTAL CLAIMED SCORE: 3013 (Note: the claimed score is not the final score, which is determined by the ARRL)

IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER, COMMENTS FROM THE SNARS FIELD DAY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Derek W7DLZ

The SNARS Field Day outing was a great opportunity to get out with other hams to make new friends, make contacts, learn new things, help others learn, work together as a team, eat some great tri-tip (THANKS John N7ROJ) and, most importantly, have fun! It was all of these and more, for me and I believe many others. Oh, I almost forgot - I am looking forward to next year's FD!

Kirk KB7QOD

This year, for the SNARS field day: It was an amazing event. We had five active radios. We had two more antenna spaces available which were not used. We were in the equestrian center at Washoe Lake State Park. There were two great things for me. The first is John Byler's (N7ROJ) tri-tip for lunch on Saturday, and the new ham orientation later that afternoon. The lunch was amazing, honestly, the best I have ever had while camping, and I have cooked a turkey in a Dutch oven over coals on Thanksgiving (It turned out well and my kids will remember it...ok my youngest was an infant, so in all likelihood they won't.).

The second was the new ham orientation. We had a great group of folk there and a lot of information shared. There was one family who had two sets of twins. None of them have their licenses yet, but they will test very soon. We had some extra hats given to us from a couple of businesses. The one I will highlight is DX Engineering. I gave six hats to this lovely family. I hope to hear them on the air very soon.

Field Day by W7DBE Doug:

Firstly I want to thank John Byerly and Derek Lentz for helping me pick up and return field day supplies from the storage unit and help with purchasing food for the event. While my field day plans changed I was able to help out with lunch on Saturday (Thank You John B. for the Tri-Tips and help with breakfast Sunday prior to cleaning up. I enjoyed running the raffle and it was good to see the donated 10m mobile rig go to a soon-to-be new HAM!! Final thanks to all of those who helped make the event work; The Field Day team, Kirk, Bob Dickerson, and others). Thanks to Perry KG7ZPA for his amazing cooking at the grill. 73, Doug W7DBE

SNARS Field Day (K6ST Barry)

We sure had a fantastic outing this year. A few months prior to Field Day 2023, SNARS field day planning team began pulling things together and continued through field day June 24/25. It takes a village way beyond the planning team, so a big THANKS to everyone including 45 participants and an amazing crew at Washoe Lake State Park of hams and guests.

The bands were fair and 40 meters was the main band that had the most qso's, yet 80m, 20m, 15m, and 6m had contacts also. The venue next to the Equestrian area made for a wonderful location as it was a hub with lots of room for all stations to spread out with very little interference.

The food was excellent with tri-tip for lunch and a yummy bbq for dinner Saturday night. The lunch this year brought many folks to SNARS field day for the afternoon of activities.

Best of all was the camaraderie between friends, fellow hams, and guests. And special thanks to Howie WB2AWQ (SNARS Newsletter Editor) for this special field day newsletter edition.

73, Barry K6ST - President, Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society (www.snars.org)

Field Day wouldn't be the big deal it is without...you guessed it....HAMS! The following people signed in for SNARS Field Day: Derek W7DLZ, Jennifer Dawson (Served Agency), Chuck WD6CHC, Don W7SSB, Nik W7NIK, Greg KG7D, Aiden Bowen no call (Greg's grandson), Kim KG7TMA, Jon KF7KTC, Paul KK7NHS, Rob KA6JLT, Clint AE5CA, Christy Ramsey no call, Betty Lynn Ramsey no call, Jim W6US, Tom KJ7TKR, Cathy AC6CE, Art AB7FB, Bob W7VD, Jacqueline May no call, Richard SWL, Cindy KA6UBB, Tyler K7TDM, Winfred Heller KK7GYO, Tony Costanzo KC7YPP, Steve Rogers, Patrick Sylvia, Monty Turner and Michael Hardisky? The last four people aren't on SNARS roster, and no call was given.

Of course, Field Day wouldn't happen at the club level without the planning committee: **John N7ROJ, Kirk KB7QOD, Derek W7DLZ, Doug W7DBE, Brian KJ6EAC, Ray KK7BVH, Tony W7XM and Barry K6ST**

WB2AWQ CLASS 2D, OPERATORS WB2AWQ AND KB2SFS

When we first moved to Reno back in 2010, we did our Field Days with SNARS. Due to my XYL now needing my attention at home 24/7, Ken and I started doing FD at our house. Fortunately the ARRL started allowing class D stations to work everyone else in FD as well after Covid. So, Ken started out on 20M, I started out on 15M. 20M was fairly noisy, and we surmised (incorrectly, I think), that the noise was coming from a memory keyer that I set up for Ken. Ken was using his Icom IC718, now about 20 years old, with a 20M mag loop at just 4 ft off the ground in the center. For 15M, I was using a Yaesu FT-101EE vintage 1976, a hybrid radio, with a 30/15M true EFHW at just 11 feet. For the 15 and 20M operation, we had no "band plan", (where one person stays above XXX20 on the lower band while the other has free reign up to XXX40Khz), because 15 and 20 are not in a harmonic relationship. With 15 in and out, and not at all reliable, I switched off 15 and took up 40M from time to time with a Kenwood TS-440SAT vintage 1984, and a 40M true EFHW, even though 40 was mainly local with daylight. Ken stayed on 20M, and we both racked up QSOs at a pretty steady rate until Mother Earth collided with a Coronal Mass Ejection that Old Sol, our sun, decided to throw off a few days earlier, messing up the bands for a bit. Even with the sun acting up, we still maintained a decent QSO rate. Interference was minimal on 40 and 20, even though our stations were just a couple feet apart, thanks to that "band plan". When I was on 15M, there was absolutely no interference.



KB2SFS AND WB2AWQ OPERATING



KB2SFS OPERATING

Score - 1,980 Points

Contest: FD WB2AWQ				
Band	Mode	QSOs	Pts	Pt/Q
3.5	CW	34	68	2.0
7	CW	228	456	2.0
14	CW	201	402	2.0
21	CW	32	64	2.0
Total	Both	495	990	2.0
Score: 1,980				
1 Mult = 1.0 Q's				

N1MM FINAL TALLY. WE WERE MESHED WITH THE HOUSE WIFI

As the evening wore on, Ken switched to 80M and a very low (just 7 ft high) dipole, which was coming to life a bit, while I stayed on 40, again with the "band plan". We worked until about 2 AM when Ken went home, while I managed to stay awake till about 4 AM. I got up again about 7 AM (Ken did not return), and I continued on 20M and 15M (no 80 or 40M at that hour) till about 10:30 AM. We ended up with 495 claimed QSOs, and while Ken was here we were both going at about the same QSO rate. While 495 is nowhere near our record (over 800 CW QSOs up at Sky Tavern in 2012, and again in Arrowcreek in 2013). Since Ken and I have been doing FD CW for almost 30 years now, given the downturn in CW activity, and the bands in and out, we're pleased with our effort. Final score 2030 including on-line submission. And all this on VERY low, stealthy antennas, and some pretty ancient radios. Out of 84 ARRL/RAC sections, Ken and I bagged 73 overall, and 151 band-specific sections. We swept 7 of 10 ARRL sections: 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, and 0. Note we are both left-handed. We creamed SNARS in CW QSOs! (Had to get that in....)



Interesting observation: Two photos above of Mt Rose, both taken the early afternoon after FD. Left photo was taken in 2011, right was taken in 2023, both as close to the same spot as possible. Which has more snow?



Sent in by Jim Shepherd, W6US

Finally I would like to thank all those folks who sent in photos. Without those, the Summer Special would be pretty dull! Without further ado, Don Sherman, W7SSB, Kirk Jeffery KB7QOD, Doug Edmondo W7DBE, Barry Bettman K6ST, and Jon Fox KF7KTC, who will most likely have made his last appearance in SNARS Field Day, as he moves, finally and permanently, to the Phillipines. Gonna miss you Jon! Been a great 12 years.